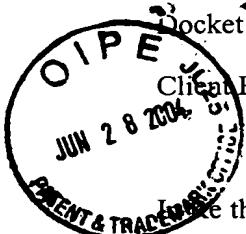


JPW



Document Number: 009270-0308308

PATENT APPLICATION

Client Reference: 50G35744-USA-AT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re the Application of

SHINICHI ITOH, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2854

Application No.: 10/779,768

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Filed: February 18, 2004

Confirmation No.: 1603

For: PAPER-LIKE MATERIAL CONVEYING APPARATUS, PAPER-LIKE MATERIAL CONVEYING DIRECTION SWITCHING APPARATUS AND PAPER-LIKE MATERIAL STAMPING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Patent Application
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references have been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

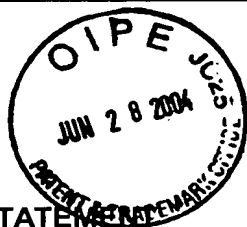
The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application in the attached European Communication (Search Report) issued June 7, 2004, i.e., not more than three months ago. An English language version of the foreign communication is attached for the Examiner's information. Both the European Communication and the English Abstracts are relied upon to satisfy the requirement of a statement of relevance for the attached references.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: June 28, 2004
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Dkt. No.

C#/M#

Client Ref.

009270-0308308

50G35744-USA-AT

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT**

Applicant: Shinichi ITOH et al.

Appln. No.: 10/779,768

Filing Date: February 18, 2004

Date: June 28, 2004

Page 1 of 1

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Group Art Unit: 2854

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS:

Examiner's Initials*		Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Name (Family Name of First Inventor)	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
	AR	3,788,638	01/1974	LEHMANN			
	BR	5,725,209	03/1998	TAKAHASHI et al.			
	CR						
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	JR						
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	MR						
	NR						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Country	Inventor Name	English Abstract		Translation Readily Available	
						Enclosed	No	Enclose	No
	OR	0 372 248 A1	06/1990	Europe	NISHIDA et al.	X		X	
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	WR								
	XR								

OTHER (Including in this order Author, Title, Periodical Name, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	YR	European Search Report, dated June 7, 2004 for Patent Application No. 03030009.9-2314/		X	X	
	ZR					
	AAR					
	BBR					
	CCR					

Examiner

Date Considered:

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.